Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

SECRETUSNATO 0631

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: AIR MANPOWER: FRG VIEWS

REF: USNATO 612

1. MISSION OFFICER ON FEBRUARY 5 HAD FURTHER DISCUSSION OF FRG VIEWS ON AIR MANPOWER WITH FRG DELEGATION OFFICER HOYNCK (CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL TOOK PLACE JANUARY 31). HOYNCK THOUGHT THE FRG'S MAIN PREOCCUPATION WITH THE US PROPOSAL ON AIR MANPOWER WAS THAT PRESENTED BY ITSELF, AND AT THIS TIME, IT WOULD NOT MOVE THE NEGOTIATION FORWARD, FOR THE OTHER SIDE WOULD SIMPLY POCKET IT. HE NOTED FRG DOUBT THAT THE OTHER SIDE WILL NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY

IN MBFR UNTIL CONCLUSION OF CSCE. HE SAID THAT THIS DOUBT STEMS NOT ONLY FROM STATEMENTS LAST YEAR BY SOVIET LEADERS, BUT ALSO FROM BONN'S OVERALL JUDGMENTOF SOVIET TACTICS AND OF THE RELATIVE WEIGHT THE SOVIETS GIVE TO MBFR.

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2. HOYNCK SAID PRESENT THINKING IN FRG IS THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD PRESENT WHATEVER THEY INTEND TO DO ON AIR MANPOWER AND OPTION III TO THE OTHER SIDE AT THE SAME TIME. AN OFFER ON AIR MANPOWER BY ITSELF WOULD NOT MOVETHE NEGOTIATION,

SINCE THE OTHER SIDE WOULD STILL AWAIT A NUCLEAR OFFER. IN ANY EVENT, THE TIME IS NOT RIGHT FOR ALLIED OFFERS, SEPARATELY OR TOGETHER, ON EITHER MATTER.

3. HOYNCK CONTINUED TO SEE A MAJOR PROBLEM IN THE PRECEDENT VALUE FOR PHASE II OF THE US AIR MANPOWER PROPOSAL. HE NOTED TAT ONE REASON THE US PROPOSAL COULD SERVE AS A PRECEDENT FOR PHASE II IS THAT UNDER THE US PROPOSAL THE ALLIES WOULD NOT YET BE PROPOSING ANYTHING SPECIFIC ABOUT AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS IN PHASE II. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE ALLIES HAVE MADE PHASE I PROPOSALS ON OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH DID NOT SET PRECEDENTS FOR PHASE II, BUT AIR MANPOWER IS OF A DIFFERENT ORDER OF IMPORTANCE.

4. HOYNCK ALSO NOTED THE NEED FOR CAREFUL MILITARY-TECHNICAL STUDY OF THE US PROPOSAL, AND THAT THE RECENT US RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE MBFR WORKING GROUP WOULD AID IN THIS RESPECT.BRUCE

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